

CENTER SCENE



The Bureau of Land Management Service Center Newsletter

August 1990

SUNSHINE - GRASS - COWS - PEOPLE

On June 8, 1990, members of the Branch of Resources (SC-325) loaded up two vans and headed about 100 miles southeast of Denver to Matheson, Colorado to attend the Annual Spring Range Tour hosted by the Society for Range Management and the Colorado Branch for Holistic Resource Management. The tour was attended by more than 160 range scientists, environmentalists, ranchers, secretaries, and housewives.

Following registration, coffee, and at least one donut apiece, everyone gathered under the trees at the Lasater Ranch. Tom and Dale Lasater were recognized for winning the Society for Range Management Excellence in Grazing Management Award and the Colorado Cattleman's Association Private Range Livestock Man of the Year Award. Dale Lasater explained the livestock management philosophy that helped develop the Beefmaster breed of cattle, the only true American breed of cattle. He also explained Holistic Resource Management, the management philosophy that is used on their land and resources. He described it as a process of setting goals for quality of life of the people involved in the ranch, determining what and how much can be produced to support the quality of life desired, and then describing a landscape that will support the production and quality of life goals indefinitely. It includes developing a detailed plan to manage the land and resources to achieve all of the goals.

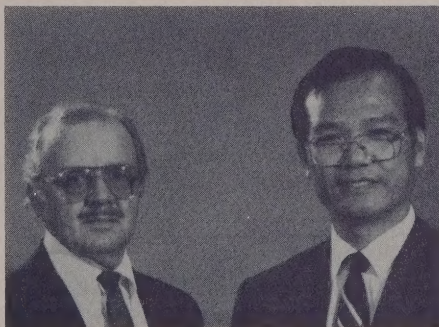
Next, the group crowded onto school buses to look at the management practices on the ground. The first stop was in a grazing cell (group of pastures) containing 11 paddocks (pastures) each about 220 acres in size. There were 211 Beefmaster heifers (only slightly startled by the intrusion) grazing the area. There seemed to be little doubt in anyone's mind that the Lasaters deserved the awards they had received after seeing the

excellent condition of the paddocks, even though each one had already been grazed once earlier in the spring.

Lunch was served at the Robert Norris Ranch south of Matheson, after which Mr. Norris explained many of his range improvement projects, such as wells, pipelines, drip systems, terraces, and tree plantings. Mr. Norris was the recipient of the 1989 Outstanding Conservation Rancher of the Year Award from the Colorado Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society and has gone through the United States Department of Agriculture Great Plains Conservation Program and the Cooperative Habitat Improvement Program sponsored by the Colorado Division of Wildlife.

The final stop of the day was back at the Lasater Ranch for BBQ beef brisket, cowboy beans, potato salad, bread and butter. Once dinner was over, the group climbed back into the vans and during the ride home discussed what they had seen throughout the day. It was a chance to remember that BLM is a land management agency and its first mandate is to manage the resources for the benefit of people.

HE CAME FROM AFAR



Host Lee Tomlin and Mr. Liu Chin-Piao from Taiwan

People come from miles around to visit the Service Center! On June 29, 1990, Mr. Liu Chin-Piao came all the way from Taiwan to see what we were about. Mr. Liu is the Deputy-Director of the National Property Bureau there.

The purpose of Mr. Liu's trip was to conduct research on public property

management in America to learn its merits and to provide reference for modifying rules about national property management in his country. Public property management in Taiwan encompasses real estate, personal property, security, and other property rights. Mr. Liu was interested in discussing the proposed land information system, examining the automated system used to track personal property, and observing the day-to-day business of public land administration.

Lee Tomlin, Chief, Branch of Personal Property, was Mr. Liu's host. After introductions and a brief overview in the Director's Office, Lee escorted him to Building 40, where he was briefed on LIS. Lee then took him to 390 Union and briefed him on the Automated Personal Property System, as well as the Automated Fleet Management System. According to Lee, Mr. Liu seemed impressed with what he saw. "Mr. Liu felt that we provided information that was specifically of interest to him," said Lee, "I will be sending him additional packages of material as well."

Mr. Liu has been in his present position since May 1984. He has also been Chief of the Cadastral Section, Department of Land Administration, Ministry of Interior, as well as Deputy-Director of the Land Information Center, Ministry of Interior.

CASTING CALL

Would you like to be a star? The Technology Transfer Staff is looking for both on- and off-camera talent for video productions.

Talent is needed for voiceovers and narration, as well as for performing parts, which may be speaking or nonspeaking parts. Often players portray BLM employees, so having a uniform is an asset.

People of all types are needed — everyone is encouraged to give it a try. If you are interested, and your supervisor approves, please call Diana Bossieux at 6-6567 or Linda Hill at 6-4238.

MANAGER'S PROFILE

Name: Larry L. Money

Division/Staff:

Division of Modernization (SC-310)

Job responsibilities: Provides land information system project planning and implementation to include analyses of requirements, benefits, facilities, system and user acceptance, testing, public relations and training, and data base conversion requirements. Defines the scope of the Modernization Project through evaluation of Bureauwide functional requirements for ADP and data communications support, development of quantitative performance requirements, and technical support for the acquisition and installation of the modernized architecture for BLM.

Proudest job accomplishment in past year: Getting the modernization procurement ready for release.

Proudest personal accomplishment: My marriage — which produced four great kids.

Personal thoughts/philosophies:

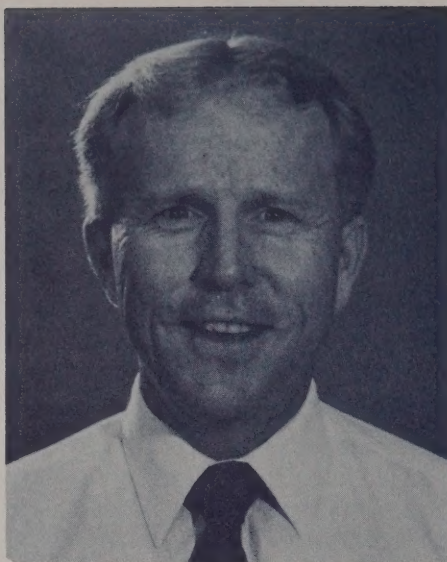
Public service requires us to safeguard our citizens' financial investment and to protect and manage the natural resources with which we are entrusted.

Person/event that has had the greatest impact on your life and why: My father taught me the importance of always doing my best and taking pride in my work.

Personal strong points: I am committed to my profession and to developing my personal skills so that I will be the very best I can be.

As a child, what you wanted to be when you grew up: In order to see the world I wanted to be a member of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Favorite pastime(s): I enjoy outdoor activities such as hiking and swimming with my wife and children, and I enjoy the activities of my community and my church.



Favorite book: The Bible.

Favorite TV show: News shows such as "20/20" and "60 Minutes."

Favorite quote: Abraham Lincoln - "Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it."

VISA AND MASTERCARD ACCEPTED HERE!

This sign is posted in many businesses around town, and now it is also posted in many BLM offices. Yes, BLM has received permission from the Department of the Interior to accept credit cards for payment of bills issued by the Bureau. A year ago Utah and New Mexico began a pilot program to offer credit card convenience to the public. Credit cards can be used for payments on wild horse and burro sales, copy work, map sales, tree permits, bills for collection, oil and gas sales, etc. They cannot be used for collections under the Grazing Authorization and Billing System (GABS) and the Automated Lease Management System (ALMS) though, as these two systems will need major revisions to facilitate the use of credit cards.

Initially, the response from the public was slow. Apparently, people were not accustomed to using their credit cards in a government office or at a BLM competitive sale. However, business is picking up. In August 1990, Wyoming,

Idaho, and the Service Center will also begin credit card collections.

At the Service Center, bills are issued by the Division of Finance to employees and ex-employees for salary overpayments and household moves, as well as to businesses for defaulted contracts. There is a credit card machine in the Branch of General Accounting for these collections and for payments received from the public for copy fees. A second machine has also been placed in the Bureau Photo Lab in Building 46 for the public's use in purchasing maps, plats, and other copy work.

Credit card collections offer convenience to the public by allowing them to do business with credit. For instance, when BLM holds an oil and gas sale, potential customers must furnish BLM with large deposits for each lease. Their money is then tied up until the outcome of the sale is decided. By using a credit card, they have the use of their money until the sale is decided and they receive the bill from their bank some 30 days later. The Government also benefits because if the lease is not granted, a credit can be processed over the credit card terminal to reverse the sale. This eliminates the need for the issuance of a refund, which costs \$25 per check. Credit cards also eliminate the need for costly collection procedures when a bill is not paid. If a credit card is used, the burden of collection is then placed with the bank.

So remember — the next time you're in the Las Vegas BLM office to buy a burro, bring your VISA because they don't have a floor show and they don't take American Express!

PERSONNEL NEWS

New Employees:

Beverly Hawkins, Summer Aid, SC-340
Sherri Perry, Clerk Typist, SC-630

Separations:

Linnea Probert, Comp. Sys. Analyst, SC-310
Leofwin Clark, Pres. Mgmt. Intern, SC-340
Charles Marquez, Emp. Dev. Spec., SC-630
Mary Shimel, Clerk Typist, SC-630
Therese Morgan, Secretary, SC-670
Joseph Wilkins, Eng. Draftsman, SC-670